

NAKAMURA
Serial No. **09/132,215**

B1
cont'd decomposing the organic compound in said fluid during said flowing step.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 remain pending. Claim 14 has been amended above so as to be presented in independent form and so as to otherwise be in more proper U.S. claim format.

Responsive to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Invention II, claims ¹⁴⁻¹⁸ 14-16, drawn to a method for decomposing an organic compound fluid. This election is made with traverse. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims. ^{6/28/03}

An early and favorable Action on the merits of claims 14-18 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning at page , line :

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claim(s) for corresponding claim(s) previously presented. A copy of the amended claim(s) showing current revisions is attached.

14. (Amended) A decomposition method for decomposing [said] an organic compound fluid, [which is used] in [said] a decomposition apparatus [as claimed in Claim 1] that comprises an excimer lamp emitting UV light for decomposing said organic compound in said organic compound fluid, which method comprises the steps of:

flowing a organic compound fluid [which is] selected from a gas of an organic compound, a liquid thereof, a gas containing an organic compound and a liquid containing an organic compound during the emission of UV light which is irradiated from [an] said excimer lamp, and

decomposing the organic compound in said fluid during [its] said flowing step.